

Buckinghamshire County Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health
for the Year 1944

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

(a) Whole-time Officers of the County Council :—

County Medical Officer of Health :

G. W. H. TOWNSEND, B.A., M.B., B.CH., D.P.H.

Deputy :

G. H. GIBSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Assistants :

A. M. ROBERTSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

T. P. EVANS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

(Also M.O.H. Urban Districts of Beaconsfield and Chesham).

*A. M. CRITCHLEY, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H.

(Also M.O.H. Borough of Buckingham and Urban District of Bletchley).

J. T. C. SIMS-ROBERTS, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. (Barrister-at-Law).

(Also M.O.H. Borough and Rural Districts of Aylesbury and Winslow).

(*Serving with H.M. Forces).

Tuberculosis Officer :

L. T. BURRA, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

County Health Inspector :

F. HARDING (Appointed 1-6-44).

Mental Deficiency Officer :

H. V. ADAMS.

Senior Dental Surgeon :

E. KEW, L.D.S.

Supervisor of Midwives :

MISS M. F. WEBB.

Assistant Supervisor of Midwives :

MISS L. J. GRAY.

Supervisor of Infant Welfare Centres :

MRS. G. W. TURNBULL.

County Council Nurses :

MISS F. ROSE

MISS T. STUBBS

MISS M. GRIFFIN

MISS M. BURDETT (res. 18-11-44)

MISS D. TANTON

MISS A. PLANT

MISS H. M. LYAL

MISS E. A. MEAKINS

MRS. L. S. LAY

MISS G. E. DOUBLEDAY.

MISS D. WALLACE (res. 4-10-44)

MISS M. C. ENRIGHT (res. 31-12-44)

MISS K. A. LINE (app. 18-10-44)

MRS. I. GREENMON (app. 16-10-44)

Home Teachers of the Blind :

MISS E. BRANSON

MISS A. HAMILTON

MISS K. RUTLEDGE

*Clerical Staff :*H. H. YEA, *Chief Clerk*

H. BENTLEY	MR. F. J. MITCHELL
MISS M. POLLARD	*MR. L. HOWARD
MISS M. BALDWIN	*†MR. D. CAUDREY
MISS B. M. SYRETT	MISS B. JENKS
*MR. P. J. CLARKE	MISS M. BRIDGER
*MR. A. NORTH	*MR. A. GAUSDEN

Serving with H.M. Forces.†Reported Missing November, 1943.***(b) Part-time Officers of the Authority and others discharging duties for the Authority :—***Medical Officers—Maternity and Child Welfare :*

DR. N. L. LEVERKUS, M.D., B.SC.

DR. EVELYNE SUMMERS, M.B., CH.B.

DR. VICTORIA SMALLPIECE, M.D.

Consulting Obstetricians :

C. B. BAXTER, O.B.E., M.D., CH.B.

V. J. F. LACK, F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., F.C.O.G.

D. M. W. MAXWELL, B.A., M.B., CH.B.

F. W. G. NASH, F.R.C.S., M.C.O.G.

A. R. WATSON, M.B., CH.B.

Venereal Disease Specialist :

DR. MORRIS F. KORN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Public Analyst :

MR. ERIC VOELCKER, F.I.C., A.R.C.S.

Bacteriologist :

DR. A. G. R. MATTICK, National Institute for Research in Dairying

Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures :

T. H. JENKS

Temporary War-Time Appointments :

DR. J. C. RONALDSON, Assistant Medical Officer (North Bucks).

DR. H. SIMMONS, Assistant Medical Officer

DR. HILDA M. DAVIS, Assistant Medical Officer

DR. MARJORIE NORRIS, Residential Nurseries, etc.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In presenting the annual report on the public health activities of the County Council, I feel that once again I must express my appreciation of the practical help given me by members of the Public Health and Housing, and Midwives Committees at various times.

Any important advance or change is noted in the text and calls for no comment here except to point out how satisfactory it is to note that during the period of a war, on the successful outcome of which our very existence depends, substantial advances in various directions are being made in the public health field. New schemes are being perfected on a national scale for the care of illegitimate children, of premature infants and in Bucks during this year, special note has been taken of the needs of the expectant and nursing mothers which has resulted in considerable improvements in the existing arrangements for their care.

Staffing of Institutions has been exceptionally difficult and Colinswood Maternity Home in particular has been much below its authorised staff strength for long periods.

The Regional Hospital Council has begun to find its feet and with the strong body of experts it commands, in addition to its very powerful membership, should prove an invaluable instrument in the welding of the many interests that must be fused if a satisfactory hospital service is ultimately to be established in this area.

The fourth winter of the war is now half through and it is encouraging to note that the expected increase in infectious disease has so far failed to materialize, although one wonders a little uneasily whether, with the scarcity of protective foods, rationing and the black-out with a consequent lack of ventilation within houses and meeting places, a major epidemic of influenza is not a probability rather than a possibility.

My thanks are due to all members of the staff, without whose loyal and willing help it would have been impossible to carry out the work which has enabled me to offer you such a satisfactory report under the existing difficult conditions.

I have the honour to be,

Your Obedient Servant,

G. W. H. TOWNSEND,

County Medical Officer.

SECTION A.—GENERAL STATISTICS FOR THE COUNTY.

Area of the County—479,360 acres.

Populations :—

Registrar-General's figure for 1944	...	...	...	...	360,260
1931 Census	...	...	...	...	271,565
No. of Inhabited Houses (1931)	...	...	...	...	68,994
No. of Families or Separate Occupiers (Census 1931)	...	...	...	...	71,013
Rateable Value (1st April, 1944)	...	...	...	...	£2,662,944
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	£10,503

	1943.			1944.		
Births—	M.	F.	TOTAL	M.	F.	TOTAL
Legitimate	... 2,795	2,758	5,553	3,159	3,009	6,168
Illegitimate	... 192	165	357	230	195	425
Total	... 2,987	2,923	5,910	3,389	3,204	6,593

Birth-rate—	1942	1943	1944
Urban Districts (per 1,000)	... 16.1	16.8	18.8
Rural Districts (per 1,000)	... 14.7	15.7	17.7
County (per 1,000)	... 15.4	16.3	18.3
England and Wales (per 1,000)	... 15.8	16.5	17.6
Still-births (rate per 1,000 total births)	... 26.9	24.9	21.5

Deaths from all causes—			
Urban Districts	1,866	Death-rate ...	9.1
Rural Districts	2,075	Death-rate ...	10.9
Total for County	3,941	Death-rate ...	10.5
England and Wales	...	Death-rate ...	11.6

Infant Mortality Rate—			
Urban Districts (per 1,000 births)	...	34.7	37.1
Rural Districts (per 1,000 births)	...	32.8	35.2
County (per 1,000 births)	...	33.8	36.2
England and Wales (per 1,000 births)	...	49.0	49.0
The Infant Mortality Rate among Illegitimate Children in the County for 1944 was 82.3			

No. of women dying in, or in from	{ sepsis ...	1	4	4
consequence of child-birth from	{ other causes ...	9	6	12

Deaths from—			
Measles	...	1	1
Whooping Cough	...	4	8
Diphtheria	...	6	1

Principal cause of death—			
Heart Disease	...	970	965
Cancer	...	462	580
Bronchitis	...	165	186
Pneumonia	...	164	158
Influenza	...	31	94

Tuberculosis { Pulmonary	...	112	131	119
Other forms	...	26	33	25
Total deaths from all causes	...	3,783	3,785	3,941

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

(i) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

There has been no important change in the laboratory arrangements during the year, details of which were set out in the Report for 1940.

(ii) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The transport facilities referred to in the Report for 1940 having remained substantially the same. In certain instances the W.V.S. organisation has co-operated in this service, and Civil Defence ambulances have been extensively used in certain area.

(iii) HOSPITAL FACILITIES.

There is nothing further to add since the Report for 1941.

(iv) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INSTITUTIONS.

The following statement shows the number of sick persons chargeable to the County through the Public Assistance Committee on 31st March, 1945.

	Men.	Women	Children.	Total.
In County Institutions	182 (215)	280 (288)	54 (60)	516 (563)
In Institutions outside the County	1 (1)	1 (—)	— (—)	(2) (1)
Relieved in Special Institutions ...	12 (14)	29 (35)	6 (4)	48 (53)
Persons of unsound mind maintained in Mental Hospitals ...	312 (322)	454 (461)	— (—)	764 (783)
In receipt of outdoor medical relief	131 (276)	329 (1788)	22 (103)	482 (2167)

The figures in brackets indicate the numbers on the same date in the previous year.

(v) MENTAL DEFICIENCY.

County Institutions. No changes in the certificates of the various County Institutions used for accommodating mental defectives occurred during the year, but in most instances the number of patients detained were, owing to the universal shortage of bed accommodation, in excess of the approved number.

Non-County Institutions. Seventy-one cases are maintained in non-county institutions, which is an increase of one over the previous year.

Four deaths occurred during the year among the certified patients.

Six patients, two male and four female, were discharged from their orders of detention.

The following table shows the number of cases on the register on 31st December, 1944 :—

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
In certified institutions ...	171	223	394
On licence from institutions ...	22	33	55
Under Guardianship Orders ...	30	39	69
Under Statutory Supervision ...	148	105	253
Under Voluntary Supervision ...	80	62	142
Under Supervision on behalf of the Education Committee	48	36	84
Children in Special Schools ...	12	9	21
Public Assistance cases in receipt of Indoor Relief ...	9	6	15
Public Assistance cases in receipt of Outdoor Relief ...	14	18	32
In County Mental Hospitals ...	50	34	84
Reported from reliable sources but no action yet taken	19	14	33
	603	579	1182

The Bucks Voluntary Association for the Care of the Mentally Defective continues to assist in the supervision of all known cases of mental defect living in their homes, the visitors' reports being submitted quarterly and carefully checked by the appropriate Committees.

Home training is also arranged in certain cases, and 22 defectives were regularly receiving tuition by six part-time home teachers.

The occupation centre at Slough has been maintained throughout the year and the names of seventeen children are on the roll.

(vi) WELFARE OF THE BLIND.

The arrangements for the relief of the Blind on behalf of the County Council by the Bucks Association for the Blind continue to work satisfactorily.

In the financial year ended 31st March, 1945, domiciliary grants paid to necessitous blind persons amounted to £7,501 19s. 11d.

This increase in some measures was due to the fact that supplementary payments were approved on a rental basis, and ranged from 2/6d. to 7/6d. per week.

From the Annual Report of the Association for the year ended 31st March, 1945, the following extracts are made:—

The number of registered blind persons shows an increase. On March 31st, 1945, there were 396 registered blind in the County, as compared with 376 in the previous year. The great majority are over middle age—308 being over the age of 50 years.

The ages of the blind population are shown in the following table:—

Under 1 year	—	65-70 years	40
1-5 years	1	Over 70 years	160
5-16 years	8	Age unknown	3
16-21 years	6		
21-40 years	39		
40-50 years	34		396
50-65 years	105		

315 persons are classed as "unemployable." These are principally elderly people, but there are 27 who have serious mental or physical disability which prevents them from working, as shown below:—

Mentally defective	8
Physically defective	5
Deaf	14

Five persons are in homes for the blind, 1 in mental hospital, and 18 in public assistance institutions.

The approved Home Workers numbered 23 at the end of March, 1944. These Home Workers continue under the general supervision of the Royal London Society for Teaching and Training the Blind, and the Home Teachers also help by arranging sales of work.

In all, 60 blind persons are usefully employed, and four are under training. The employments followed are:—

Basket makers	12	Farmers and poultry farmers	3
Boot repairers	4	Teachers	2
Dealers and shopkeepers ...	5	Tuners... ..	6
Knitters (hand and machine)	8	Telephonists	2
Music Teacher	1	Sighted Industry	2
Typist	3	Packer... ..	2
		Miscellaneous	10

The Association continues to co-operate with the British Wireless for the Blind Fund, and assists in the maintenance of the sets. During the year £153 16s. 7d. was expended in providing new batteries, and for repairs and replacements of parts.

The Home Teachers carry out the duties of giving instruction in the homes of blind persons in Braille, Moon and several handicrafts. The total number of visits paid was 5,956, this number including 913 visits to evacuated blind persons.

(vii) MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

This section of the Report, in so far as it deals with the midwifery services and registered nursing homes, refers to the whole administrative County. The Borough of High Wycombe is a separate Maternity and Child Welfare Authority, and details of its child welfare work will be included in the Report of the Medical Officer of the Borough.

(a) **Midwifery Services.** The number of midwives who notified their intention to practise was 200. Of this number, 137 were domiciliary midwives, 56 institutional, and 7 acted in a temporary capacity.

The number of cases attended by midwives was as follows :—

	1942	1943	1944
Cases attended as midwives ...	2,303	2,840	3,078
Cases attended as maternity nurses ...	2,141	2,283	3,070

In accordance with the rules of the Central Midwives' Board, notifications were received from midwives during the year, as follows :—

Notices of sending for medical aid ... 708 (619 (mothers).
(89 infants).

Still births ... 27

Deaths of mothers ... 2

Deaths of infants ... 17

During the year the Supervisor of Midwives made 479 visits of inspection to midwives.

The following is a summary of work carried out during the year in connection with the Evacuation Scheme :—

Number of cases attended by midwives alone ...	920
Number of cases attended by midwives with doctor ...	937
Number of notifications of sending for medical aid ...	50
Number of notifications of still-birth ...	—
Number of notifications of deaths of infants ...	4
Number of visits and inspections by Supervisor of Midwives ...	8

In July last it was agreed that requisite training in the administration of gas and air analgesia should be provided for nurse midwives on the basis that each midwife took a minimum of 20 cases per annum. It was considered this would involve 35 district midwives qualifying for training in addition to 7 district midwives who already hold the certificate.

During the year 8 district nurse midwives were trained in the administration of gas and air analgesia, and arrangements have been made to obtain the necessary apparatus for use by them.

The question of provision to midwives of apparatus for taking the blood pressure in ante-natal cases also received consideration, and it was agreed that arrangements be made to obtain a supply of the necessary outfits. This apparatus will be used by district nurse midwives in their maternity work and they are given instruction in its use.

(b) **Registered Nursing Homes.**—The County Council exercises the powers under the Public Health Act, 1936, over the whole County, and has not delegated its powers to any District Council.

The following particulars are given of action taken during 1944 :—

1. No. of applications for registration ...	—
2. No. of homes registered ...	—
3. No. of orders made refusing or cancelling registration ...	—
4. No. of appeals made against such orders ...	—
5. No. of cases in which such orders have been :	
(a) confirmed on appeal, and ...	—
(b) withdrawn ...	—
(c) refused ...	—

A current list of Registered Nursing Homes in the County is set out in Section F (b) of this Report.

(c) **Infant Welfare Centres.**—Five new welfare centres were opened during the year at Twyford, Great Horwood, Castlethorpe, St. Leonards and Haddenham. The following tables shows the attendances at the 68 infant welfare centres operating at the end of the year :—

		EVACUATION SCHEME			
		1943	1944	1943	1944
(i)	No. of times Centres opened ...	1,331	1,547	147	113
(ii)	No. of children under 1 year who attended at least once ...	4,420	7,220	201	448
(iii)	No. of children between 1-5 years who attended at least once ...	3,961	5,544	196	240
(iv)	No. of attendances of children under head (ii) ...	30,589	40,697	801	1,764
(v)	No. of attendances of children under head (iii) ...	17,914	21,538	655	871
(vi)	No. of mothers who attended at least once ...	7,629	11,538	210	995
(vii)	No. of attendances under head (vi) ...	40,004	55,262	1,010	2,264
(viii)	No. of expectant mothers who attended at least once ...	182	397	40	71
(ix)	No of attendances under head (viii) ...	595	1,120	129	262

Appendix (c) at the end of the Report gives details of the Centres.

(d) **Milk Assistance Scheme.**—As indicated in the Report for 1940, the Ministry of Health had introduced a scheme for a supply of liquid milk. Only a small amount of dried milk has been issued through infant welfare centres.

(e) **Dental Treatment, Expectant and Nursing Mothers.**—The dental treatment of expectant and nursing mothers and infants up to 5 years of age continues to be carried out by private dental practitioners whose charges for the work are based upon lines similar to the dental benefit provided by approved societies under the National Health Insurance Act.

The following shows the numbers who received treatment :—

		1942	1943	1944
Expectant and Nursing Mothers ...	...	53	38	50
Infants up to 5 years of age ...	...	1	1	1

(f) **Health Visiting.**—The County Council employ 14 whole-time permanent and temporary Health Visitors and by arrangement with Voluntary Nursing Associations is enabled to have the services of 86 District Nurses.

The following table shows the visits paid during 1944 :—

		FIRST VISITS.	TOTAL VISITS
Expectant Mothers ...	...	2,216	14,073
Children under 1 year of age ...	...	3,533	14,892
Children between 1-5 years of age ...	...	—	22,595

The following table shows the number of maternity cases admitted from this County during 1944 to the following Institutions :—

		Total No. Cases admitted from County	No. of Cases admitted under County Council Scheme
Mid Bucks Maternity Home, Aylesbury ...	...	48	7
Royal Bucks Hospital, Aylesbury ...	...	217	79
Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford ...	...	56	56
County Hospital, Bedford ...	...	15	12
Municipal Maternity Home, High Wycombe ...	...	88	88
Maternity Home, Slough ...	...	212	33
Barratt Maternity Home, Northampton ...	...	109	63
Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading ...	...	20	15
West Herts Hospital, Hemel Hempstead ...	...	—	—
Charing Cross, Ashridge ...	...	301	301
Colinswood ...	...	345	345

Including the emergency maternity homes, more than 2,600 cases have been dealt with during the year.

(g) **Maternity Accommodation.** The demand for maternity accommodation was maintained during the year, and the available accommodation was severely taxed. The position in this County is probably very much the same as in other areas in that there appears to be an increasing demand for institutional confinements. It is interesting to note that whereas in 1938 the total number of maternity cases admitted under the County Council Scheme to institutions was 128; in 1943—700 admissions were made, and 999 in 1944. This does not take into account cases admitted through private arrangements.

The County Council Maternity Home at Farnham Common is still very much appreciated. This Home was opened in December, 1942, and up to the end of that year five cases only were admitted. In 1943, 255 admissions were made and 301 in 1944. The available accommodation has been fully utilised as there were bookings in excess of the accommodation.

At a special meeting of the Public Health and Housing Committee in March, 1944, it was considered that the following propositions be adopted as a basis and guide in the future provision of maternity accommodation in the County:—

- (1) That the proportion of mothers to be provided for in maternity homes throughout the county be accepted as 70 per cent. of the total;
- (2) That separate and self-contained maternity units should not contain less than 40 beds, and preferably at least 50 beds;
- (3) That where fewer beds are required the maternity unit should be attached to a general hospital, so that the necessary consultant services and operational facilities may be easily available;
- (4) That where a sufficient number of beds are required to make a self-contained unit economically practicable, a separate maternity unit is preferable, provided it is within easy reach of consultant services;
- (5) That maternity homes should not be wholly isolated from general hospitals in regard to the training of nurses, and that affiliation to a general hospital is therefore desirable wherever possible, at least so far as concerns the provision and training of nurses.

Bearing in mind the foregoing considerations, the following provision of maternity accommodation in the several areas of the county appears to be required:—

- | | |
|---|---|
| (a) South Bucks,
(i.e., Slough Borough, Eton Urban and Rural Districts. | A self-contained unit of 60 beds in or near Slough. |
| (b) Wycombe and Marlow area,
i.e., High Wycombe Borough, Marlow U.D. and Wycombe R.D. (except the area north of Princes Risborough). | A self-contained unit of 40 beds in or near High Wycombe. |
| (c) Chesham and Amersham area,
i.e. Chesham U.D. and Amersham R.D. | A unit of about 33 beds attached to the Amersham Emergency Hospital, provided that institution continues as a general hospital after the war. |

(NOTE.—The Beaconsfield Urban District, which needs only three beds, could conveniently obtain its accommodation in any or all of the three above-mentioned units, according to convenience and availability).

- | | |
|---|--|
| (d) Aylesbury area,
i.e., Aylesbury Borough and Rural District, with northern part of Wycombe R.D. | A unit of 27–30 beds attached to the Royal Bucks Hospital, Aylesbury, of which the hospital authority is already proposing to provide 20 beds, while 7 beds which are now available at Tindal House should later be transferred to the Royal Bucks Hospital. |
| (e) North Bucks,
i.e., all north and east of Aylesbury Rural District | Two small maternity homes of 10–15 beds each accommodating normal cases, one in the Wolverton area, and one in the Winslow Rural District: cases needing specialised treatment to be sent to the Barratt Maternity Home, Northampton, to the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, or to Bedford Hospital, according to convenience, as at present. |

(h) **Emergency Maternity Homes.**—There has been no change in the provision of Emergency Maternity Homes during 1944, and the following institutions were in operation :—

1. Shardeloes, Amersham.
2. East End Maternity Hospital, Tyringham.

Ante-natal and Post-natal residences have also been established to operate in conjunction with the Emergency Maternity Homes.

The following is a brief summary of the cases admitted during 1944 :—

	East End M.	
	Home Tyringham	Shardeloes, Amersham
No. of Births	723	764
„ of Admissions	*845	826
„ Still-Births	6	15 (1.9% of total)
„ Breech Presentations	24	18 (2.3% of total)
„ Ante-partum haemorrhage	3	6 (0.83% of total)
„ Post-partum haemorrhage	28	34 (4.5% of total)
„ Cæsarian section	—	15 (1.9 of total)
„ Forceps Deliveries	38	59 (7.6% of total)
„ Twins	13	13 (1.7% of total)
„ Neo-Natal Deaths	1	7 (0.19% of total)
„ Maternal Deaths	—	2 (0.26% of total)

*Includes patients admitted and discharged before coming into labour—mainly toxæmias.

(viii) WAR TIME NURSERIES.

By arrangement between the Ministries of Health and Education, the nurseries catering for 0–2 years, viz. :—Walton Cottage, Aylesbury, Baylis Court and Manor Park, Slough, remained under the control of the Public Health and Housing Committee, the other nurseries for children 2–5 years being transferred to the Education Committee as from 1st September, 1944.

The following table shows the position on the 31st December, 1944, except in the case of the nurseries transferred to the Education Committee when the figures show the position on 1st September.

Name of Nursery.	Accommodation.	No. on Register.	Average monthly Attendance.
Walton Cottage, Aylesbury	40	45	27
Fairmile, Turnfurlong, Aylesbury	40	45	31
Beech Green, Southcourt, Aylesbury	40	29	15
Rover Hut, Longwick Road, Princes Risborough	20	17	11
Henry Allen Nursery, Amersham	44	43	38
Masonic Hall, Marlow	30	30	21
Social Centre War-time Nursery, Slough	30	31	17
Baylis Court Nursery, Slough	45	38	29
Cippenham Day Nursery, Slough	30	32	20
Wexham Road Nursery, Slough	45	45	32
Manor Park Nursery, Slough	50	54	44
	414	409	

The various war-time nurseries have, generally speaking, functioned very well. One of the greatest difficulties experienced has been the provision of suitable staff. Although much pessimism was expressed when opening war-time nurseries on the lines that they would be kept almost continuously closed or at any rate below full strength owing to incidence of infectious disease, it is gratifying to be able to say that our fears have not been realised and the incidence of infectious disease has not been unduly heavy. The health of the children under two years has been surprisingly good and there is no evidence to show that they are suffering in any way even though they are being deprived of parental care during the day.

(ix) SHORT-STAY NURSERY.

The short-stay nursery at Burnham, which was opened in December, 1943, has fully justified the establishment of such a nursery in this area. During 1944, 128 children were admitted, the average duration of stay being 38 days.

Owing to an outbreak of measles, the nursery was closed from 25th November until 12th December.

(x) POST-NATAL EXAMINATIONS.

The extension of the General Practitioner Ante-Natal Scheme in May, 1943, to provide for Post-Natal examinations has worked satisfactorily.

During the year under review 421 post-natal examinations were made under the extended scheme.

While the district nurses and practitioners are prepared to do their part in this scheme, they all comment on the difficulty of getting women up for examination unless they suspect there is something the matter with them. Doubtless, however, this difficulty will disappear as the scheme becomes better known and its benefits appreciated.

(xi) INFESTATION OF HEAD LICE.

Reference was made in the Report for 1943 to the arrangements made for complying with the request of the Ministry of Health in their Circular 2831 relating to the following up of children found to be infested with lice.

Supplies of Lethane were made available and treatment by this method has been found generally to be most satisfactory. In no instance was it found necessary for a district health visitor to request a follow-up.

(xii) PREMATURE INFANTS.

In March, the Ministry of Health issued Circular 20/44 relating to the care of premature infants. It has not been possible, however, under war-time conditions to implement many of the recommendations authorised in the Circular. Towards the end of the year arrangements were made with the authorities of the Northampton General Hospital to admit from the northern part of the County premature infants without their mothers. It has also been possible to obtain, for domiciliary use in the County, a special portable cot for premature babies and a further four cots of similar design have been ordered.

An endeavour is also being made to obtain further details of numbers of premature babies born and for follow-up visits to be made. It is hoped to refer to this question more fully in the report for 1945.

(xiii) CARE OF ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.

In October, 1943, the Ministry of Health issued Circular 2866 asking welfare authorities to give earnest consideration to the problem of illegitimate children. It was suggested that, in addition to co-operation with existing voluntary moral welfare associations, a Moral Welfare Worker, experienced in the special problems of the question should be appointed.

A Sub-Committee of the Public Health and Housing Committee was appointed to consider this matter and in April, 1944, a Social Worker commenced duties. She has made contact with most of the organisations who are interested in this question, including health visitors, hospital almoners, moral welfare workers, probation officers, etc.

Up to the end of 1944, 141 cases have been referred to the Social Worker, many of whom have proved to be "problem cases." Of this number 77 were dealt with and 17 were referred to appropriate voluntary agencies. Vacancies have also been secured for illegitimate children in suitable institutions.

One of the great difficulties has been the lack of accommodation, and the Committee have approved the principle that a hostel for mothers and babies and residential nursery for infants should be established as soon as it is possible to obtain suitable premises.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

(i) Water Supply. (ii) Drainage and Sewerage. (iii) Housing.

(i) **Water Supply.** The Engineer of the Bucks Water Board reports as follows :—
“ In the area served by the Bucks Water Board progress continues to be made in the number of new connections to the mains. The position in December, 1944, in the four rural districts served was as follows :—

	Connections.
Rural District of Aylesbury	2,653
Rural District of Buckingham	1,574
Rural District of Wing... ..	1,190
Rural District of Winslow	1,544
Total	6,961

In addition to the number of consumers shown, large quantities of water have been supplied to the many aerodromes and military establishments throughout our district.”

The last occasion on which figures of the Bucks Water Board were published in my Annual Report was for the year 1940. The following summary is interesting as showing the increased number of connections made during the four years 1940 to 1944 :—

Summary of Connections.

Rural District.	No. of connections at 31-12-40	No. of connections at 31-12-44	Increase 1940 to 1944.
Aylesbury	1819	2653	834
Buckingham	1022	1574	552
Wing	603	1190	587
Winslow	1060	1544	484
Totals	4504	6961	2457

BUCKS WATER BOARD.

Number of Consumers at 31st December, 1944.

Aylesbury Rural District.		Brought forward	1223
Ashendon	56	Kingswood	23
Aston Sandford	10	Long Crendon	266
Bishopstone	31	Lower Winchendon	4
Boarstall	14	Ludgershall	73
Brill	189	Oakley	73
Chearsley	44	Oving	94
Chilton	86	Pitchcott	11
Cuddington	70	Quanton	240
Dinton, Ford and Upton	124	Shabbington	62
Dorton	9	Stoke Mandeville	254
Fleet Marston	23	Wendover Dean	43
Grendon Underwood	98	Westcott	69
Haddenham	318	Whitchurch	158
Hardwick	51	Woodham	10
Ickford	66	Wotton Underwood	10
Kingsey	34	Worminghall	40
Carried forward	1223	Total	2653

Buckingham Rural District.

Addington	10
Adstock	56
Akeley	66
Barton Hartshorn	9
Beachampton	23
Biddlesden	16
Chackmore	46
Charndon and Calvert	97
Chetwode	25
Dadford	23
Edgcott.....	33
Foscott	5
Hillesden	24
Leckhampstead	41
Lillingstone Dayrell	3
Lillingstone Lovell	22
Luffield Abbey	2

Carried forward 501

Brought forward	501
Maids Moreton	98
Marsh Gibbon	115
Middle Claydon.....	26
Padbury	115
Poundon	25
Preston Bissett	33
Radclive	8
Shalstone	14
Steeple Claydon	186
Stowe	7
Thornborough	100
Thornton	8
Tingewick	170
Turweston	24
Twyford	89
Water Stratford	13
Westbury	42

Total 1574

Wing Rural District.

Aston Abbotts	52
Cheddington.....	6
Cublington	41
Edlesborough	205
Great Brickhill	97
Grove	90
Horton	10
Ivinghoe	171

Carried forward 672

Brought forward	672
Marsworth	56
Mentmore	3
Pitstone	99
Slapton	51
Soulbury	68
Stoke Hammond	72
Wing	20
Wingrave	149

Total 1190

Winslow Rural District.

Drayton Parslow	74
Dunton	12
East Claydon	58
Granborough	69
Great Horwood	126
Hoggeston	15
Hogshaw	5
Little Horwood	62
Mursley	99

Carried forward 520

Brought forward	520
Nash	46
Newton Longville	136
North Marston	129
Shenley Brook End	47
Stewkley	186
Swanbourne	67
Tattenhoe	1
Whaddon	77
Winslow	335

Total 1544

The following is a summary of Water Undertakers in the County :—

Local Authority.**Water Undertakers.****BOROUGHS.**

Aylesbury	The Chiltern Hills Spring Water Company.
Buckingham.....	Buckingham Borough Council.
Slough	Slough Borough Council.
	Burnham Ward. The Burnham Water Company.
	Slough Trading Estate. The Slough Estates Ltd.
Wycombe	Wycombe Borough Council.

URBAN DISTRICTS.

Beaconsfield	The Amersham, Beaconsfield and District Water Co., Holtspur Area. The Marlow Water Company.
Bletchley	Bletchley Urban District Council.
Chesham	Central Area—Chesham Urban District Council. North-West Area—Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Co. North-East Area—Great Berkhamsted Waterworks Co. Southern Area—Amersham and Beaconsfield Water Co.
Eton	Borough of New Windsor.
Linslade	Linslade Urban District Council.
Marlow	The Marlow Water Company.
Newport Pagnell...	Newport Pagnell Urban District Council.
Wolverton	Stony Stratford and Calverton. Wolverton Urban District Council. Wolverton and New Bradwell. The L.M. & S. Railway Company.

RURAL DISTRICTS.

Amersham	The Chiltern Hills Spring Water Company. The Rickmansworth & Uxbridge Valley Water Co. The Great Berkhamstead Water Company. The Amersham, Beaconsfield and District Water Company.
Aylesbury	The Bucks Water Board. The Chiltern Hills Spring Water Company.
Buckingham.....	The Bucks Water Board.
Eton	The Amersham, Beaconsfield and District Water Co. Slough Borough Council. The Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Co. The Burnham, Dorney and Hitcham Water Company.
Newport Pagnell...	Newport Pagnell Rural District Council The Aspley Heath, Aspley Guise and Woburn Sands Joint Water Committee. Lathbury—Newport Pagnell Urban District Council. Stoke Goldington—Stoke Goldington Water Co. Gayhurst—The Hesketh Estate. Tyringham—The Tyringham Estate. Little Brickhill—The Bucks Water Board.
Wing	The Bucks Water Board. Wing Village—Wing Rural District Council. Mentmore Village—The Mentmore Estate..
Winslow	The Bucks Water Board.
Wycombe	Wycombe Rural District Council. Wycombe Borough Council. The Amersham, Beaconsfield and District Water Co. The Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Co. The Rural Districts Water Company. The Marlow Water Company.

(ii) **Sewerage and Drainage.** The Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944, came into operation during the year as part of the Government's post-war reconstruction programme. This Act places a sum of £15,000,000 at the disposal of the Minister of Health to assist post-war schemes of water supply, sewerage and sewage disposal in rural localities in England and Wales.

Pending the commencement of contributions under the Act, the Minister requested local authorities concerned to consider the requirements of their districts in order that plans may be ready when the grant arrangements operate. The main object of the scheme of grants is to secure piped water supplies to all or nearly all sizeable groups of houses, and local authorities were requested to plan their schemes with these considerations in mind.

By Section 2 of the Act, if the Minister undertakes to make a contribution towards a local authorities scheme, the County Council are required to contribute also. Further, Section 2 (2) of the Act requires local authorities to consult the County Council before submitting schemes to the Minister, and to report to the Minister the observations, if any, of the County Council. In this way full opportunity is afforded to the County Council of expressing their views on the scope of schemes for their area. The Minister expressed

the hope "that County Councils will encourage and assist the local authorities in considering and determining the scope of comprehensive schemes of water supply and sewerage when the circumstances indicate that such schemes are preferable to a more local solution."

Three schemes were submitted by the Winslow Rural District Council during the year as follows :—

Parish of Drayton Parslow. A gravitation scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal for a population of 450. Total estimated cost, based on 1939 prices, £6,160.

Parish of North Marston. A gravitation scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal for a population of 500. Total estimated cost, based on 1939 prices, £6,300.

Parish of Stewkley. A gravitation scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal for a population of 1,300. Total estimated cost, based on 1939 prices, £15,600.

The County Council approved these schemes for the purposes of Section 2 (2) of the Act, subject to the Minister of Health approving the schemes and agreeing to make contributions towards the expenditure involved.

Towards the end of the year there was every indication that more schemes of this character would be forthcoming from the Local Authorities in the County during 1945.

(iii) Housing.

The Third Report of the Rural Housing Sub-Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee was received during the year. This Report comprehensively surveys the whole sphere of Rural Housing and makes recommendations affecting the Ministry of Health, County Councils and Rural District Councils. The Minister of Health requested that two recommendations on preparatory work should receive prior attention, viz. :— (a) the establishment of a Joint County Housing Committee and (b) the carrying out of a comprehensive survey of housing conditions in rural areas.

As a result of a Conference between representatives of the County Council and the Bucks Branch of the Rural District Councils Association, the following resolutions were subsequently approved and adopted by the County Council :—

"That a Joint County Committee be established to be known as "The Buckinghamshire Rural Housing Committee."

"That the Committee shall act in a consultative and advisory capacity and in in that connection give special consideration to :—

- (1) Measures for securing the best standards of housing throughout the County.
- (2) Arrangements for the comprehensive survey and periodic inspection of rural housing conditions.
- (3) The adoption of more uniform standards for demolition, reconditioning and repairs.
- (4) Consideration of the working of the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts in the County.
- (5) Consideration of the adequacy of housing programmes within the County.
- (6) Measures for assisting rural district councils with an exceptionally heavy rate burden, either directly due to housing expenditure or through the provision of water supplies or sewerage.
- (7) Arrangements for mutual aid between authorities in such matters as the loan of officials, bulk purchase, or other matters common to two or more districts.

The Committee subsequently appointed two Sub-Committees :—

- (a) A Reconditioning Sub-Committee to deal with arrangements for the comprehensive survey and periodic inspections and the adoption of more uniform standards for demolition, reconditioning and repairs.
- (b) A Post-War Housing Sub-Committee to deal with measures for securing the best standards of housing and the adequacy of housing programmes within the County.

The constitution of each Sub-Committee includes a representative of each Rural District Council and County Council Members, together with appropriate officials.

The object of the survey is the classification of all working-class houses in rural areas into prescribed categories. By this means the extent of the rural housing problem can be ascertained and programmes prepared for repairs, reconditioning and new building. For the purposes of the survey, the Minister has adopted the classification recommended by the Hobhouse Report, the various categories being as follows :—

- (1) Houses satisfactory in all respects.
- (2) Houses with minor defects only.
- (3) Houses requiring repair, structural alteration or improvement.
- (4) Houses appropriate for reconditioning under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts.
- (5) Houses unfit for habitation and beyond repair at reasonable expense.

This is the first comprehensive survey of the condition of rural dwellings to be carried out on a nation-wide scale. Whereas the Hobhouse Report recommended that the survey should be completed within twelve months, the Minister of Health (Circular 64/44) realises that :—" owing to the present shortage of staff it may not, in all cases, be possible to put this survey in hand immediately, but he hopes it will be done as soon as possible. The Minister is most anxious to see such a survey carried out as a basis for the long-term programme to improve rural housing conditions."

The Bucks Rural Housing Committee gave early consideration to the adoption of uniform standards of fitness as a basis for the classification of houses in the survey and for work of improvement and reconditioning under the Housing Acts. The Rural Housing Committee was also taking steps to secure the acceptance of such standards by all the Rural District Councils in the County.

The further proceedings of the Rural Housing Committee and the progress of the Rural Housing Survey will be followed with great interest by all concerned.

SECTION D.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(i) Food and Drugs.

The Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures submits the following Report for 1944 :—

During the past year 1,354 samples of food and drugs were taken, of which 90 were found to be adulterated or unsatisfactory in other respects.

The number of samples submitted to the Public Analyst was 429, 44 of which were reported against. Of the remaining 925, 913 consisted of milk samples and 12 of spirit samples tested by the Inspectors in the Department's laboratory. Of the 429 samples sent to the Public Analyst, 45 consisted of milk, 35 suspected of adulteration, while the remaining 10 were the consequential " follow-up " samples, *i.e.*, taken on " appeal to cows " or " in course of delivery."

In addition to the above, 545 informal samples of milk were taken on delivery to schools in accordance with the arrangements for the supervision of the milk under the " Milk in Schools Scheme." Two of these were slightly deficient in fat, due to bad " bulking " on the part of the vendors, and warnings were given.

Samples of milk and foodstuffs were taken on behalf of the Public Assistance Committee and the various institutions in the County ; at the Mental Hospital and Manor House and on behalf of hospitals, London County Council educational establishments, and War-time and Residential Nurseries.

The proportion of samples reported against by the Public Analyst has dropped from 15% in 1943, to 10% in 1944, and is only half the figure for 1942. This is a welcome sign and is due to the beneficial effects the various restrictive Orders in Council have had in curbing the activities of unscrupulous traders taking advantage of a state of emergency, the fixing of standards for certain foods in short supply and the vigorous policy of enforcement on the part of the Council's Inspectors. —

Nevertheless a number of prosecutions undertaken during the year emphasises the fact that goods in short supply continue to provide the attraction for those willing to risk legal proceedings. The shortage of whisky and other liquors (which, when obtainable,

are now exceedingly expensive) tempted a number of licensed victuallers to have resort to the tap to increase available supplies, with the result that sampling in three cases was resented and charges of obstruction had to be brought. Another sample described as Orange Cup (alcoholic) was found to contain just sufficient alcohol as to make it excisable but no orange juice. The more serious case, however, concerned the sale of so-called cocktails under the exotic names of "Paradise" and "Red Lady," which consisted of a concoction of water synthetically coloured and flavoured and "boosted" with methylated spirits, reminiscent of the infamous "Red Biddy" which had such serious consequences for drinkers a few years ago. A "Finest Quality Mint Liqueur" consisted of a peppermint cordial highly coloured and with a small quantity of alcohol, and this was sold wholesale at 25/- a bottle!

Fourteen cases of milk adulteration were all successfully prosecuted, two cases being dismissed.

In all, 26 cases were prosecuted, the total fines and costs amounting to £210 9s. 6d. 2 summonses were dismissed.

(ii) Food and Drugs Act, Part II. (Milk and Dairies) Order.

405 samples of milk taken mainly at places of production were submitted for microscopical examination and animal inoculation test, the number of cows involved totalling 6,133. A further 503 similar samples were taken on delivery to schools in connection with the supervision of the Milk in Schools Scheme. As a result of all this sampling, 32 cows were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, while statutory notices were served on the owners of 157 cows suffering from scheduled diseases and whose milk was unfit for human consumption.

The number of producers licensed to use a special designation during the year was 289 (113 "Accredited" and 176 "Tuberculin Tested"). 23 licensees relinquished their licences through removal or other causes, and 2 were revoked. 10 licences were suspended for various periods.

917 samples were taken from licensed producers, 172 of which failed to pass the prescribed test. In addition, 147 pre-licence "check" samples were taken.

The number of complaints from other local authorities was 4, received from the Middlesex and London County Councils. As a result of investigation, 1 tuberculous cow was slaughtered, but the alleged infection was not traced in the 3 other cases.

The total number of cows giving tubercular milk slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order during the year was therefore 33.

SECTION E.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

(i) Apart from the usual incidence of seasonal cases of infectious disease, it is again gratifying to record that there has been no outbreak on which any comment is required.

The table at the end of this Report (Section F (f)) gives the number of cases of infectious diseases notified in urban and rural districts.

(ii) Vaccinations.

The County is divided into 61 vaccination districts, in which 48 Public Vaccinators are employed. Public Vaccinators are also appointed for the Council's Public Assistance Institutions.

The Registrar General requires two returns to be submitted to him annually, one in respect of successful primary vaccinations and re-vaccinations performed by Public Vaccinators and Medical Officers of Public Assistance Institutions, and the other in respect of the vaccinations of children whose births were registered in the previous year. These returns are summarised as follows for 1944 :—

No. of successful Primary Vaccinations.			No. of successful re-vaccinations of persons who had been successfully vaccinated at some previous time.
Under one year of age.	One year and upwards.	Total.	
1,542	1,471	3,103	900

(iii) Diphtheria Immunisation.

Continued good progress has been made in this matter, and in most instances local authorities have co-operated in securing the immunisation of cases in their area. The table (h) in section F. set out at the end of this report gives an indication of the work carried out in the various districts. It will be appreciated that as immunisation becomes more complete, the numbers immunised will tend to lessen.

During 1944 welfare centres have co-operated as far as possible with local authorities in effecting immunisation of children under 5 years of age. During the year 2,857 children were immunised, as compared with 2,538 in 1943.

In order to secure immunisation of children living in remote areas, and therefore unable to attend an infant welfare centre, a general practitioner scheme was instituted during 1943. This scheme provided for the immunisation of these children by the family doctor, to whom they were referred by the local health visitor. Up to the end of the year 197 cases were immunised under this scheme and the figure is included in those quoted above.

(iv) Cancer.

The Council have not yet provided any special facilities in the County for the treatment of Cancer. The Berks, Bucks and Oxon Regional Hospitals' Council set up a Sub-Committee to go into the question of treatment of Cancer within the Region.

(v) VENEREAL DISEASES.

The arrangements for the treatment of venereal diseases through the London and Home Counties Scheme, The General Hospital, Northampton, and the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, continued to function as in previous years. The County Council Clinics established at Aylesbury and Windsor have operated most satisfactory.

In addition to the above, another Clinic is open two afternoons and evenings a week.

The following tables shows the work carried out at the various centres :—

	London		Northants.		Oxford.	
	1943	1944	1943	1944	1943	1944
No. of New Patients ...	239	129	22	33	20	26
Total No. of Attendances ...	2547	1086	182	63	223	205
Total No. of In-patient days	644	88	30	41	—	18
Pathological Specimens—						
From Centres—Detection of—						
Spirochaetes	—	1	1	2	—	—
Gonococci	483	714	41	80	—	73
Wasserman Reaction ...	361	537	21	48	—	34
Others	603	698	5	12	—	3
For Practitioners—						
Detection of—						
Spirochaetes	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gonococci	32	45	—	—	—	—
Wasserman Reaction ...	382	396	—	—	—	—
Others	174	155	—	—	—	—

	Aylesbury		Windsor		High Wycombe
	1943	1944	1943	1944	1944
No. of New Patients.....	177	214	121	299	*138
Total No. of Attendances...	1285	1669	837	2930	1138
Total No. of In-patient days	—	—	—	—	—
Pathological Specimens—					
From Centres—Detection of—					
Spirochaetes	1	—	—	—	—
Gonococci	581	19	—	22	35
Wasserman Reaction	222	18	—	15	26
Others	62	137	—	168	69
For Practitioners—					
Detection of—					
Spirochaetes	—	—	—	—	—
Gonococci	—	—	—	—	—
Wasserman Reaction	—	—	—	—	—
Others	—	—	—	—	—

*From 5th May, 1944.

VI. TUBERCULOSIS.

(a) **Maintenance Allowances.** The scheme for the payment of maintenance allowances on the lines laid down by the Ministry of Health has functioned most satisfactorily. During the year 98 new applications were received of which 74 were approved, including 7 discretionary and 10 special grants. The amounts of allowances granted varied from 4/- to 57/6d. per week.

(b) **Mass Radiography.** There is no progress to report so far as the provision of mass radiography sets is concerned. There is very little prospect that sets will be available for use in this county for some time to come.

(c) **Saunderton Sanatorium.** While the County Council continue to send majority of the cases of pulmonary tuberculosis to the Joint Board Sanatorium at Peppard, Saunderton Sanatorium is continuing to fill a useful purpose in catering for some of the advanced cases. The admissions and discharges to the Sanatorium, which provides for 10 males and 10 females, were as set out below :—

	In the Institution 1-1-44.	Admitted during year.	Discharged.	Died in Institution.	Remaining in on 31-12-44.
Men	4	16	12	3	5
Women	6	14	5	6	9

(d) **Notifications.** The following table shows notifications of pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis during the 1940-1944 (inclusive) :—

	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
1940	127	40
1941	149	55
1942	165	71
1943	158	58
1944	183	65

(e) **Deaths.** Deaths from tuberculosis during the period 1940-1944 (inclusive) is given below :—

1940	146
1941	192
1942	138
1943	164
1944	144

(f) General.

In connection with treatment by artificial pneumothorax, X-Ray examinations are now considered essential, so that for the diagnosis of doubtful cases and for "A.P." cases X-Ray examinations become more and more frequent. The excellent results obtained by the Radiographers at the Royal Bucks Hospital and Wycombe War Memorial Hospital have been of the greatest assistance, and the co-operation of the Hospital Staffs is much appreciated by the Tuberculosis Officer. For cases in the north of the County the Northampton Borough Council have kindly consented to their Tuberculosis Officer making any necessary X-Ray examination, and his help has been very valuable, as has that of the Radiologist at the Chalfont Hospital, and at Chesham Cottage Hospital.

Examinations of specimens of sputum, etc., are made free of charge for practitioners in the County. During the year 467 specimens were examined, in 112 of which tubercle bacilli were found, the other 355 giving a negative result.

As in recent years the majority of cases of tubercle of bones and joints have been sent direct to the Orthopaedic Clinics. It is hoped that such cases will get fewer in proportion to the elimination of bovine sources of infection.

Without the goodwill and help of medical practitioners throughout the County, it would be impossible to get into touch with the cases of tuberculosis, and the Tuberculosis Officer would once more acknowledge with thanks their co-operation.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY, 1944.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1.....	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
1—5	1	1	9	6	3	2	2	1
5—10	1	—	7	8	1	—	4	1
10—15	2	—	5	2				
15—20	8	16	1	3	38	39	4	5
20—25	18	24	1	7				
25—35	26	17	1	7				
35—45	29	10	4	1	26	9	2	5
45—55	7	5	2	—				
55—65	10	4	—	—				
65 and upwards	4	—	—	1				
TOTALS	106	77	30	35	69	50	13	12

SECTION F.—TABLES ETC.

(a) LIST OF SANITARY AUTHORITIES.

<i>District.</i>	<i>Medical Officer of Health.</i>
URBAN DISTRICTS.	
Aylesbury, Borough of ...	J. T. C. SIMS ROBERTS, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., Barrister at Law.
Beaconsfield	T. P. EVANS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Bletchley	A. MICHAEL CRITCHLEY, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H.* J. C. RONALDSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
Buckingham, Borough of ...	A. MICHAEL CRITCHLEY, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H.* J. C. RONALDSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
Chesham	T. P. EVANS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Eton	V. A. T. SPONG, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
Linslade	M. C. ROTHCOPE, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Marlow	F. H. P. WILLS, L.M.S.S.A.
Newport Pagnell.....	C. H. F. BAILEY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Slough	V. A. T. SPONG, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
Stratford and Wolverton ...	D. W. A. BULL, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Wycombe, Borough of	W. B. MOORE, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
RURAL DISTRICTS.	
Amersham	H. ENGLAND, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Aylesbury	J. T. C. SIMS ROBERTS, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., Barrister at Law.
Buckingham.....	J. C. RONALDSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
Eton	V. A. T. SPONG, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
Newport Pagnell.....	C. H. F. BAILEY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Wing	W. H. SQUARE, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.
Winslow	J. T. C. SIMS ROBERTS, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., Barrister at Law.
Wycombe	F. H. P. WILLS, L.M.S.S.A.

*Serving in H.M. Forces.

(b) REGISTERED NURSING HOMES.

	NAME AND ADDRESS.			DESCRIPTION.
AMERSHAM	Tenderden, Chestnut Close			Maternity or Medical
AYLESBURY	" Rosser," 31, Tindal Road			Surgical, Medical, Aged, Infirm
"	The Gables, 123 Wendover Road, Aylesbury			Maternity, Medical or Minor Surgical, Aged, Infirm
BEACONSFIELD	The Kinellan Nursing Home, Penn Road			Maternity, Medical, Acute Surgical, Aged, Infirm
"	St. Joseph's Home... ..			Maternity, Acute Surgical, Medical or Minor Surgical, Aged, Infirm
BLETCHLEY	Red House Bungalow, High Street			Maternity
CHALFONT ST PETER	Mount Carmel, Welders House, Welders Lane			Medical, Minor Surgical, Aged, Infirm
DRAYTON HOLLOWAY	Drayton Holloway, nr. Tring			1 Convalescent
FARNHAM COMMON	" Daneby," Green Lane			Medical, Minor Surgical, Aged, Infirm, Maternity
GERRARDS CROSS	Chalfonts Nursing Home			Maternity, Acute Surgical, Medical or Minor Surgical, Aged, Infirm
"	Lyncroft, Pack Horse Road			Medical, Minor Surgical, Aged, Infirm, Maternity
HIGH WYCOMBE	The Willows, 147, West Wycombe Road			Maternity, Surgical
"	St. George's, 123, London Road			Medical, Minor Surgical, Aged, Infirm
"	Sefton, 113, Totteridge Road			Medical, Minor Surgical, Maternity, Acute Surgical, Aged, Infirm
LANGLEY	The Moat House			Mental, Nerve
"	Heathlands, 262, High Street			Medical, Minor Surgical, Aged, Infirm
LINSLADE	Netherbeck, 46, Mentmore Road			Maternity
MURSLEY	Richmond Lodge			Medical, Minor Surgical, Aged, Infirm, Convalescent, Maternity
NEWPORT PAGNELL	Tykeford Abbey Nursing Home			Mental, Maternity or Surgical

(b) REGISTERED NURSING HOMES (*Continued*).

	NAME AND ADDRESS.						DESCRIPTION.
OLNEY...	90, High Street	...	...	...	1 Maternity
PRESTWOOD	The White House	...	...	...	Medical, Minor Surgical
Slough	Heathfield Nursing Home, Heathfield, Uxbridge Villas, Uxbridge Road				Aged, Infirm
„	Parkside Nursing Home, Upton Court Road				Maternity, Surgical, Aged, Infirm
„	The Nursing Home, Burlington Road				Maternity
STOKE POGES	Fulmer Grange	...	...	...	Medical, Minor Surgical, Aged, Infirm
WENDOVER	Red House	...	...	...	Maternity, Medical or Minor Surgical, Aged, Infirm

(c) INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

NAME OF CENTRE.	SITUATE.	BY WHOM PROVIDED.
AMERSHAM (N. Town) ...	British Legion Hall ...	Voluntary Committee
AMERSHAM (O. Town) ...	St. Michael's Hall ...	Voluntary Committee
AYLESBURY ...	The Clinic, Pebble Lane ...	County Council
BEACONSFIELD ...	The Old Rectory ...	Voluntary Committee
BLEDLOW AND DISTRICT ...	The Memorial Hall ...	County Council
BLETCHLEY ...	School Clinic ...	Voluntary Committee
BOURNE END ...	Red Lion Hotel ...	Voluntary Committee
BRADWELL ...	Methodist Church Schoolroom...	County Council
BRILL ...	Working Men's Institute ...	Voluntary Committee
BUCKINGHAM ...	Congregational Schoolroom ...	Voluntary Committee
BURNHAM ...	Lent Rise Hall ...	Voluntary Committee
CALVERT—TWYFORD ...	The Rectory ...	Voluntary Committee
CASTLETHORPE ...	Old School Room ...	Voluntary Committee
CHALFONT ST. GILES ...	First Aid Post, Hill House, Deanway	Voluntary Committee
CHALFONT ST. PETER ...	Hospital Hut ...	Voluntary Committee
CHARTRIDGE AND THE LEE	Reading Room, Chartridge ...	Voluntary Committee
CHENIES ...	23, Brushwood Drive, Chorley Wood	Voluntary Committee
CHESHAM ...	The Clinic, Germain Street ...	Voluntary Committee
CHESHAM BOIS ...	British Legion Hall ...	Voluntary Committee
CIPPENHAM ...	Central Hall ...	Voluntary Committee
DATCHET ...	Working Men's Club ...	Voluntary Committee
DOWNLEY ...	Memorial Hall ...	Voluntary Committee
ELLESBOROUGH ...	Village Hall ...	Voluntary Committee
ETON ...	College Arms, High Street ...	Voluntary Committee
ETON WICK ...	Chapel Hall ...	Voluntary Committee
FARNHAM ROYAL ...	The Village Hall ...	Voluntary Committee
ST. MICHAEL'S, FARNHAM		
ROYAL ...	Slough Social Centre ...	Voluntary Committee
FLACKWELL HEATH ...	Temperance Hall ...	Voluntary Committee
FRIETH ...	Village Institute ...	Voluntary Committee
GERRARDS CROSS ...	Memorial Hall ...	Voluntary Committee
GREAT HAMPDEN ...	Parish Room ...	County Council
GREAT HORWOOD ...	Memorial Hall ...	Voluntary Committee
GREAT MISSENDEN ...	Y.M.C.A., High Street ...	Voluntary Committee
HADDENHAM ...	Old School Room ...	Voluntary Committee
HAZLEMERE ...	Baptist Chapel ...	Voluntary Committee
HORTON ...	Champneys Hall ...	Voluntary Committee
HOLMER GREEN ...	Baptist School Room ...	Voluntary Committee
IVER ...	The Village Hall ...	County Council
IVINGHOE AND DISTRICT ...	The Town Hall ...	Voluntary Committee
KIMBLE ...	Mrs. Lavington's, Askett ...	Voluntary Committee
LACEY GREEN ...	Memorial Hall ...	County Council
LANE END ...	Memorial Hall ...	Voluntary Committee
LANGLEY ...	Men's Club Room ...	Voluntary Committee
LAVENDON ...	The George Club Room ...	Voluntary Committee
LITTLE CHALFONT ...	St. Mildred's, Little Chalfont...	Voluntary Committee
LINSLADE ...	Forster Institute...	Voluntary Committee
LONG CRENDON ...	The Old Court House ...	Voluntary Committee
LOUDWATER ...	Village Hall ...	Voluntary Committee
MARLOW ...	Public Library ...	Voluntary Committee
MONKS RISBOROUGH ...	White Cross Hall ...	Voluntary Committee
NAPHILL ...	Memorial Hall ...	Voluntary Committee
NEWPORT PAGNELL ...	73, High Street ...	County Council
OLNEY... ..	Church Hall ...	Voluntary Committee

(c) INFANT WELFARE CENTRES (*Continued*).

NAME OF CENTRE,	SITUATE.	BY WHOM PROVIDED.
PRESTWOOD AND GREAT		
KINGSHILL	Memorial Hall, Prestwood ...	Voluntary Committee
PRINCES RISBOROUGH ...	Baptist Church Room ...	Voluntary Committee
QUAINTON	Memorial Hall	Voluntary Committee
RICHINGS PARK	Church Room	Voluntary Committee
SEER GREEN AND JORDANS	Baptish School Room ...	Voluntary Committee
SLOUGH	Health Centre	Voluntary Committee
ST. LEONARD'S	The Village Hall, Cholesbury ...	Voluntary Committee
STOKENCHURCH	Welfare Hut	Voluntary Committee
STOKE POGES	The Village Hall	Voluntary Committee
STONY STRATFORD	Church Hall	Voluntary Committee
TYLERS GREEN	Village Hall	Voluntary Committee
WADDESDON	Reading Room	Voluntary Committee
WENDOVER	Public Hall	Voluntary Committee
WINCHMORE HILL	Memorial Hall	Voluntary Committee
WING	Rothschild Hall	Voluntary Committee
WINSLOW	Church Hall	County Council
WOBURN SANDS	The Friends' Meeting House ...	Voluntary Committee
WOLVERTON	Infant School	Voluntary Committee
WOOBURN GREEN	Chapel Room, The Green ...	Voluntary Committee
WRAYSBURY	Scout Hut	Voluntary Committee

(d) BIRTH AND DEATH RATES AND INFANT MORTALITY RATE, 1943 and 1944.

	Reg. Gen. Popu- lation	Birth rate per 1,000		Death rate per 1,000		Infant Mortality rate per 1000 births		Phthisis death rate per 1000		Maternal Mortality per 1000 live and stillbirths	
		1943	1944	1943	1944	1943	1944	1943	1944	1943	1944
Aylesbury	19910	15.1	19.5	10.0	9.9	40.6	23.1	0.3	0.3		
Beaconsfield	6782	15.9	14.9	10.7	10.1	9.2	19.8	0.7	0.4		
Bletchley	8992	17.1	16.3	9.9	9.7	71.8	61.2	0.1	Nil		
Buckingham.....	3949	13.2	18.9	10.1	12.1	37.04	26.6	0.4	Nil		
Chesham	11030	17.4	19.3	13.9	11.6	41.2	42.2	0.3	0.3		
Eton	3920	10.7	8.7	8.8	7.9	Nil	58.8	Nil	0.5		
Linslade	2805	16.2	14.6	9.8	10.6	21.7	73.2	0.3	Nil		
Marlow	6196	17.7	19.8	11.7	12.7	36.3	32.5	0.3	Nil		
Newport Pagnell...	4226	12.1	18.2	14.5	14.4	33.3	64.9	0.2	0.4		
Slough	61250	19.5	20.6	8.2	9.0	42.3	37.3	0.5	0.4		
Wolverton	14090	13.4	14.9	13.1	11.5	37.6	33.1	0.6	0.3		
Wycombe	40050	16.1	19.3	9.4	9.8	24.6	34.8	0.4	0.4		
Total Urban	183200	16.8	18.8	9.8	10.1	37.1	36.5	0.4	0.3	1.6	2.6
Amersham	39390	13.8	16.5	10.2	10.7	29.4	47.6	0.1	0.2		
Aylesbury	24900	17.2	18.3	10.6	11.8	31.1	26.3	0.3	0.2		
Buckingham.....	8284	14.7	16.9	10.9	11.1	15.9	35.7	Nil	0.1		
Eton	39400	17.3	18.6	10.6	11.3	40.6	35.4	0.4	0.4		
Newport Pagnell...	13920	15.8	18.7	13.7	14.6	37.2	57.5	0.3	0.2		
Wing	7591	15.7	16.5	16.6	20.9	33.8	8.0	Nil	0.1		
Winslow	7245	12.5	16.7	12.5	12.9	42.1	24.8	0.1	0.2		
Wycombe	36330	15.7	18.1	10.5	9.9	40.1	25.8	0.5	0.3		
Total Rural	177060	15.7	17.7	11.1	11.7	35.2	35.0	0.3	0.2	1.8	2.2
County	360260	16.3	18.3	10.5	10.9	36.2	35.8	0.4	0.3	1.7	2.4
England and Wales		16.5	17.6	12.1	11.6	49.0	46.0			2.29	1.93

(e) COMPARATIVE TABLE OF BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES FOR THE
TEN YEAR PERIOD, 1935-44.

YEAR.	BIRTH RATE per 1,000 population.				DEATH RATE per 1,000 population.				INFANT MORTALITY RATE per 1,000 births.			
	Urban	Rural	County	England and Wales	Urban	Rural	County	England and Wales	Urban	Rural	County	England and Wales
1935	15.4	14.1	14.7	14.7	9.5*	9.6*	10.5	11.7	33	37	35	57
1936	15.6	13.6	14.6	14.8	10.0*	10.3*	11.1	12.1	42.5	47.7	44.9	59
1937	15.5	14.1	14.8	14.9	10.4*	10.3*	11.3	12.4	38.7	42.2	40.4	58.0
1938	15.9	13.5	14.7	15.1	9.5*	10.4*	10.0	11.6	34.6	29.5	32.2	53.0
1939	16.1	14.4	15.3	15.0	9.9*	9.3*	10.5	12.1	39.0	38.5	38.7	50.0
1940	14.0	12.4	13.2	14.6	11.8*	10.9*	11.5	14.3	48.5	43.7	48.5	55.0
1941	12.5	11.5	12.04	14.2	9.6	10.9	10.3	12.9	38.9	42.9	45.0	59.0
1942	16.1	14.7	15.4	15.8	9.1	10.9	10.5	11.6	34.8	32.8	33.8	49.0
1943	16.8	15.7	16.3	16.5	9.8	11.1	10.5	12.1	37.1	35.2	36.2	49.0
1944	18.8	17.7	18.3	17.6	10.1	11.7	10.9	11.6	36.5	35.0	35.8	46.0

*Corrected for age and sex distribution.

**(f) NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN URBAN AND
RURAL DISTRICTS, 1944.**

DISTRICTS	Tuber- culosis		Ophthalmic Neonatorum	Puerperal Pyrexia	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Poliomyelitis	Encephalitis Lethargica	Pneumonia	Malaria	Dysentery	Enteric Fever	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Chicken Pox	Whooping Cough	Measles and German Measles	Small Pox	Influenza
	Pulmonary	Other Forms																
URBAN																		
Aylesbury ...	12	3	1	2	5	1	—	21	9	17	—	5	26	—	24	10	—	—
Beaconsfield	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	11	—	15	1	—	—
Bletchley ...	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	1	—	1	29	1	37	1	—	—
Buckingham	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8	—	—	1	—	—
Chesham ...	6	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	24	—	3	2	—	—
Eton	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	1	1	—	—
Linslade	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	1	5	86	7	35	—	—
Marlow	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	20	—	51	48	—	—
Newport	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pagnell ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	2	—	—
Slough	42	5	1	10	5	—	—	33	6	10	—	31	143	—	149	39	—	—
Wolverton ...	8	6	—	—	—	—	—	28	—	—	—	5	56	108	44	106	—	—
Wycombe ...	15	6	1	11	2	1	—	6	—	—	—	3	118	2	53	12	—	—
Total Urban	92	33	3	23	12	2	—	109	15	28	1	48	450	197	384	258	—	—
RURAL																		
Amersham ...	18	7	1	14	1	2	—	23	30	20	1	4	104	5	45	46	—	—
Aylesbury ...	21	2	—	4	—	—	—	18	10	7	—	3	44	2	28	9	—	—
Buckingham	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	12	26	9	11	—	—
Eton	24	10	—	16	3	—	—	23	2	40	—	7	103	1	155	69	—	—
Newport	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pagnell	—	2	1	5	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	4	21	—	38	9	—	—
Wing	4	6	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	1	—	10	50	23	4	—	—
Winslow	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	2	—	—	8	6	—	28	—	—
Wycombe ...	10	7	—	4	1	—	—	13	2	2	—	14	76	6	116	20	—	—
Total Rural	80	36	3	45	6	3	—	88	44	72	2	33	378	96	414	196	—	—
County	172	69	6	68	18	5	—	197	59	100	3	81	828	293	798	454	—	—

(g) CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE
COUNTY OF BUCKINGHAM, 1944.

AGGREGATE OF URBAN DISTRICTS.										AGGREGATE OF RURAL DISTRICTS.						
CAUSES OF DEATH.		Sex.	All Ages	0—1	1—	5—	15—	45—	65—	All Ages	0—1	1—	5—	15—	45—	65—
ALL CAUSES.																
1	Typhoid and Parat Fevers	M	921	72	13	13	105	259	459	1,037	65	10	16	67	206	673
		F	943	54	8	6	94	184	597	1,038	45	7	9	99	197	681
2	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
3	Scarlet Fever	...M	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
		F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	Whooping Cough	...M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	Diphtheria	...M	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
		F	5	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	Tuberculosis of Resp. System	...M	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		F	45	1	3	—	28	10	3	24	—	—	1	10	10	3
7	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...M	25	—	2	—	18	3	2	25	—	—	—	21	3	1
		F	7	—	2	1	3	—	1	6	1	—	3	1	1	—
8	Syphilitic Diseases	...M	3	—	—	—	2	1	—	9	—	1	1	3	3	—
		F	5	—	—	—	3	—	2	5	—	—	—	—	2	3
9	Influenza	...M	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	2	—	2
		F	15	2	—	—	6	7	7	10	2	—	—	—	1	7
10	Measles	...M	11	—	—	1	2	1	7	12	1	—	—	1	4	6
		F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11	Ac. Polio-Myel. and Polio-Enceph.	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
		F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12	Ac. Inf. Enceph.	...M	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
		F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
13	Cancer of Buc. Cav. and Oesoph. (M)	...M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		F	13	—	—	—	—	5	8	18	—	—	—	—	3	15
14	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	...M	14	—	—	—	2	6	6	30	—	—	—	—	13	17
		F	23	—	—	—	1	5	17	32	—	—	—	1	16	15
15	Cancer of Breast	...M	17	—	—	—	—	4	13	22	—	—	—	—	7	15
		F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16	Cancer of all other sites	...M	26	—	—	—	6	14	6	47	—	—	—	5	20	22
		F	104	—	—	1	12	41	50	112	—	—	1	—	32	79
		F	89	—	—	—	5	34	50	94	—	—	—	3	27	63

(h) RETURN—DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION FOR THE YEAR 1944.

1 Borough or Urban District.	2. No. of children who received full course.		3. Approx. estimated No. of children in area at 31-12-44.		4. Estimated % of children under 5 immunised at 31-12-44.		5. No. of cases of diphtheria notified in 1944 (0-15 years).	6. No of cases in Col. 5 known to have completed immunisation not less than 12 weeks before onset of disease.	7. No. of deaths from diphtheria of children under 15.	8. No. of deaths in Col. 7 where known to have completed immunisation.
	Under 5	5-15 yrs.	Under 5	5-15 yrs.	Under 5	5-15 yrs.				
Aylesbury	267	107	1700	2400	60%	77%	2	1	—	—
Beaconsfield	31	36	445	822	73%	82.2%	—	—	—	—
Bletchley	46	82	584	1207	44%	41%	1	—	—	—
Buckingham	53	11	280	540	70%	93%	1	—	1	—
Chesham	117	32	800	1800	98.1%	97.5%	1	—	—	—
Eton	24	44	200	320	30%	94%	1	—	—	—
Linslade	19	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marlow	106	—	600	900	75%	80%	—	—	—	—
Newport Pagnell ...	61	26	299	625	98%	97.6%	—	—	—	—
Slough	602	446	5300	8000	54.7%	92%	27	6	2	—
Wolverton	Nil	125	—	2500	—	90%	4	—	—	—
Wycombe	424	160	2970	6576	50%	80%	3	—	1	—
Rural Districts.										
Amersham			Returns	not available.						
Aylesbury	99	24	2200	4000	41.5%	78.07%	—	—	—	—
Buckingham	29	22	570	1100	64.2%	95.7%	—	—	—	—
Eton	323	144	3000	4200	38.6%	90%	2	—	—	—
Newport Pagnell ...	274	47	976	2037	56.2%	93.6%	2	1	—	—
Wing	8	61	600	1400	50%	76%	—	—	—	—
Winslow	10	—	457	1190	80%	78%	—	—	—	—
Wycombe	625	244	2700	5400	76%	91.7%	10	—	—	—

